

EMERGENCY ORDER
CONTINUING SUSPENSION OF CHARITABLE BINGO LICENSES AND
REINSTATING CHARITABLE RAFFLE LICENSES

WHEREAS, Jim Justice, Governor of the State of West Virginia, by proclamation on March 16, 2020, declared a State of Emergency for all counties in West Virginia in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Jim Justice, Governor of the State of West Virginia, by Executive Order 9-20 on March 23, 2020, ordered closed “all places of public amusement . . . including . . . bingo halls;” and

WHEREAS, I, Dale W. Steager, Tax Commissioner of the State of West Virginia, issued an Emergency Order on March 20, 2020 suspending charitable bingo and raffle licenses; and

WHEREAS, Jim Justice, Governor of the State of West Virginia, by Executive Order No. 39-20 on May 19, 2020, pursuant to certain guidelines and limitations, modified and removed prohibitions against certain activities specified in previous Executive Orders; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 39-20 expressly states that bingo halls shall remain closed,

NOW THEREFORE, I, DALE W. STEAGER, Tax Commissioner of the State of West Virginia, pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Governor’s Executive Order 2-20, and under the implicit authority of sections 47-20-23(h)(1) and 47-21-21(h)(1) of the West Virginia Code, hereby **DECLARE** and **ORDER** that the Tax Commissioner’s Emergency Order of March 20, 2020, is hereby revised with regard to all charitable raffle licenses issued by the State Tax Division of the West Virginia Department of Revenue. Effective June 1, 2020, charitable raffle licenses are hereby **REINSTATED**. Charitable raffle licensees may resume the conduct of charitable raffles operations subject to social distancing and other requirements in State issued guidelines for the reopening of restaurants and bars for indoor service; **PROVIDED, THAT** all licensing requirements, all statutory and regulatory time intervals, all license renewal and reporting requirements and all rules for operation of charitable raffles shall apply to charitable raffle licensees and charitable raffle operations conducted on or after June 1, 2020. The time intervals and requirements for license renewals, and for mandated financial and accounting reports for charitable raffle licensees and charitable raffle operations shall not be tolled or otherwise altered by reason of the above described suspension and reinstatement.

FURTHER, I, DALE W. STEAGER, Tax Commissioner of the State of West Virginia, **EXPRESSLY REITERATE** that the suspension of charitable bingo licenses pursuant to the Emergency Order of March 20, 2020 remains in effect until the Governor of West Virginia modifies Executive Order 39-20 to allow the conduct under such terms and conditions as the Governor may specify.

BY ORDER OF THE STATE TAX COMMISSIONER
This first day of June 2020



Dale W. Steager,
State Tax Commissioner